





1           12. The process as claimed in claim 11 wherein said step of  
2 providing routing information further includes a step of providing a network controller  
3 coupled to said distributed computer network for configuring said distributed  
4 computer network in response to said alert.

1           13. The process as claimed in claim 11 wherein said updating step  
2 further includes the step of providing real-time performance monitoring and  
3 management of the hardware components comprising said distributed computer  
4 network.

1           14. The process as claimed in claim 13 wherein said monitoring and  
2 management step further includes the step of responding to said alert.

1           15. The process as claimed in claim 14 further including a step of  
2 updating a database showing the operational status of each component in said  
3 distributed computer network in response to said alert, said database accessible by  
4 said network controller.

1           16. The process as claimed in claim 7 further including a step of  
2 generating an alert in response to detection of a failure to complete the transmission  
3 of said message from said source to said destination.

1           17. The process as claimed in claim 16 further including a step of  
2 updating a database in response to said failure detection and configuring said  
3 distributed computer network in response to changes to said database, said  
4 database accessible to said network controller.

1           18. The process as claimed in claim 17 wherein said updating and  
2 configuring step further includes a step of associating said source with selected route  
3 points, said associating step further including the step of updating said association in  
4 response to said failure detection .

1           19. In a networked computer system having a plurality of connectors  
2 for providing access to a network for transmitting messages between said  
3 connectors, an apparatus for managing the transmission of said messages in said  
4 networked computer system, said apparatus comprising:





10 a second plurality of connectors, each of which coupled by said  
11 network to at least two of said plurality of route points, said second plurality of  
12 connectors adapted to acquire said envelope from said at least two of said  
13 plurality of route points and for determining whether one of said envelope is a  
14 duplicate of an earlier received envelope;  
15 means for acquiring said envelope from either said route point or from  
16 said distributed database.

1 33. The apparatus as claimed in claim 32 further including a network  
2 controller coupled to said network.

1 34. The apparatus as claimed in claim 33 further including a network  
2 operations center for real-time performance monitoring of said network, said network  
3 operations adapted to respond to an alert and for updating said network manager of  
4 the operational status of each component in said distributed computer network in  
5 response to said alert.